K

203

Wat Williams Will.

Well-wiſhing *Williams* Will and Teſtament,
Which to the Ballad-ſinger he hath ſent,
To be diſpers'd to all good people kinde,
That would doe well, and beare an honeſt minde.
To the tune of, *Then let us to Virginia goe.*

I Wiſh for no mans riches,
yet would I were more wealthy;
And thoſe that are both ſicke and lame
I would they were more healthy:
I wiſh to be contented
with that which God doth lend me,
And take his bleſſings in good part,
of all that he doth lend me.

I wiſh all cruell Landlords
would not be ſtony hearted,
That to their Tenants which are poore
ſome Rent be back imparted,
Then ſure their Heires would proſper,
and not ſo ſoone conſume it,
As ſome with Dice, and Drabs, and Drinke,
and Indian-weede perfume it.

I wiſh all Chriſtian people
in peace to live together,
And not for trifles goe to law,
or wagging of a feather:
The Lawyers they make rich,
with their owne undoing,
As too too many in this Land
doe wring their hands with wooing.

I wiſh all Shop-keepers
would uſe true weight and meaſure,
And not with ſlight and rotten Wares
get ſuch a deale of Treaſure;
With yea, and nay, and truely,
and verily, deere Brother,
I cannot ſell under that price
if 'twere unto my Mother.

I wiſh Artificers
and handycrafty Tradeſmen,
Would make no ſlight and rotten Wares,
to which they ſo deceive men;
Their [illegible] not weight and colour,
and will not [illegible]

I wiſh that Quack-ſalvers
and Mountebanks ſo baſe,
That kills ſo many with their Druggs,
and live in corners private,
They had ſome better ſkill,
and not ſo many murther,
Whoſe private faults they doe commit
the earth doth quickly ſmother.

I wiſh that Farmers rich
that hoordeth Corne in corners,
And thoſe that keepes the Bread of life,
and hides it in their Garners,
It might from them be tooke,
who makes ſuch ſcarce of plenty,
Ere it doth rot, as ſome hath done,
and given to Poore that's empty.

Would Bakers all were honeſt;
and Colliers ſell true meaſure,
Nor thinke their Sackes to wrong the poore,
'twould doe them mickle pleaſure;
Would Souters uſe good Leather,
and Taylors leave their ſtealing,
The many ſort ſhould better live,
if all us'd honeſt dealing.

I wiſh all Tapſters eke,
their liquor not to ſpill it,
Nor yet to bumbaſt up their Jugges
and Pots, with froth to fill it;
You neede not call for drinke,
if you have money plenty,
You'l fill your braines and belly full,
but leave your pockets empty.

I wiſh all Officers eke
to leave their double dealing,
Nor uſe to greaze their Porters teeth,
nor yet their [illegible] be ſtealing;
They'l cheat you to your face,
[illegible]

4s.
6. 11.
360

K

579

203

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4s.
6. d.
360

379

The ſecond part, To the ſame tune.

VVould women would leave ſuch drinking,
and Gallants leave their roaring:
Would deſperate Dick forbeare to ſtab,
and Leachers leave their whoring:
If there were no Pickpockets,
nor Theeves in corners lurking,
The Hangman might goe hang himſelfe,
or ſtarve, for want of working.

I would ſome money-mongers
that uſeth great extortion,
Which maketh Dice of poore mens bones,
they ſhall have Dives portion:
I wiſh that Jaylors alſo
of Country and of Citie,
Would not uſe Priſoners poore like dogges,
but take of them ſome pitie.

I wiſh all men were honeſt,
and all did love true dealing,
Nor come in with good intents to cheate,
nor any bent to ſtealing;
Would there no cheating were,
no cogging, nor no lying:
Would there were no deceit at all
in ſelling or in buying.

Would ſome receive no bribes,
nor double Fees be taking,
Some Clyents on the ſcore doe
would not have hearts ſo aking.
And Farmers might be at home,
being rul'd by honeſt Neighbours,
As many which were wont have done,
and lov'd their Corne and labours.

I wiſh no ſtrifes nor jarring
when married couples happen,
And then each thing will proſper well,
their children will well batten:
All things will well encreaſe,
by Gods Almighty power,
In diſcord doe not ſpend your dayes,
but on each other lower.

Likewiſe I wiſh all Parents
their Children well to nouriſh,
[illegible] them by,
[illegible]:

Printed at London for H. Goſſon.

And Children have a care
to pleaſe your Parents truly,
Then long you ſhal enjoy the land,
and have all things moſt duly.

I wiſh true amity
'mongſt Neighbours may be common;
And that no honeſt minded man
be matcht with a bad woman:
Nor that an honeſt wife
doe with a mad man marry,
Being ſo yoak't, there's naught but ſtrife,
and all things ſeeme to varie.

I wiſh all wicked Traytors,
and ſuch like bloody fellowes,
That doe their King and Countrey hate,
were hanged on the Gallowes.
I wiſh that peace and plenty
may in our Kingdome flouriſh,
And that the Goſpels heavenly light
we may embrace and nouriſh.

And all wiſht happineſſe
unto my King I render,
That long amongſt us he may raigne,
in glory and in ſplendor:
Our gracious Queene God bleſſe,
and Royall Progenie,
Long let them live, and after death
place them in Heaven moſt hie.

I wiſh the Clergie well,
the Nobles, and the Gentrie,
The Laymen, and the Commons all,
poore men Ile not exempt yet;
Lord ſend us charity,
let us our lives be mending,
And give thee thanks for all thy gifts
thou ſtill to us art ſending.

Thus now my Teſtament
I fully have concluded,
And wiſh you well to uſe theſe lines
which here you have peruſed;
This is my Legacie
which unto all is given:
The Lord preſerve you every one,
And ſend your ſoules to heaven.

FINIS.